

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1764

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02261

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, AO, AG, MOPS, PINS

SUBJECT: ANDREW YOUNG MEETING WITH ALGERIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA

SUMMARY. IN A NINETY-MINUTE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
YOUNG ON JUNE 2, ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA,
WHO REQUESTED THE MEETING, COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF
AFRICAN PROBLEMS INCLUDING ZAIRE, ANGOLA, FRANCE'S
AFRICAN POLICY AND THE CONCEPT OF AN INTERVENTION
FORCE. HE CAME DOWN HARD ON GISCARD, MOBUTU AND
SENGHOR, AND HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR US AFRICAN POLICY
SINCE THE ADVENT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION.
END SUMMARY.

1. ZAIRE. BOUTEFLIKA CALLED MOBUTU A BAD LEADER,
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INCAPABLE OF SAVING HIMSELF AND THEREFORE OBLIGED TO
CALL IN OUTSIDE FORCES TIME AND AGAIN. HE SAID IT IS
OBVIOUS THAT NO CUBANS WERE INVOLVED IN SHABA, BECAUSE
NO GUERRILLA FIGHTER WORTH HIS SALT WOULD HAVE MADE
THE BLUNDERS THE SHABA INVASION FORCE DID. NOR, HE
STATED CATEGORICALLY, WERE ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA INVOLVED.
BESIDES, THE PROBLEMS ARE NOT IN SHABA BUT IN KINSHASA

AND ITS CORRUPT REGIME. MOBUTU MUST CHANGE HIS POLICIES AND GET RID OF THE MEN AROUND HIM. AFRICANS NO LONGER "BELIEVE IN" ZAIRE. FOR EXAMPLE, KINSHASA HAS AN OUTSTANDING THIRTY MILLION DOLLAR DEBT WITH ALGIERS; PERHAPS NOT MUCH IN REAL TERMS, BUT A LOT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD. BOUTEFLIKA ADDED THAT ON TOP OF ALL THIS THE KATANGESE ARE NOT EVEN LIKED IN AFRICA. HE REMARKED THAT NOT A SINGLE AFRICAN STATE DESIRED TO SEE ZAIRE FALL APART, INCLUDING ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA.

2. ZAIRE/ANGOLA. AS LONG AS MOBUTU PERMITS UNITA TO OPERATE OUT OF ZAIRE, PROBLEMS WILL CONTINUE. WERE MOBUTU TO SHOW ANY WILLINGNESS TO DISARM SAVIMBI AND ROBERTO, ANGOLA WOULD DO LIKEWISE WITH THE KATANGESE. THE SAUDIS TOO BEAR PART OF THE BLAME BECAUSE THEY FURNISH ARMS TO UNITA. WHAT THE SAUDIS FAIL TO REALIZE IS THAT IF NETO WENT HE WOULD BE REPLACED BY SOMEONE EVEN MORE MARXIST. (HERE BOUTEFLIKA THREW IN AN ASIDE ABOUT THE NEPOTISTIC, MEDIEVAL REGIME IN JIDDA.)

3. ANGOLA. BOUTEFLIKA SAID THAT THE MPLA, DURING ITS "FREEDOM STRUGGLE," OBVIOUSLY COULD GET NO HELP FROM TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA, WHICH IS WHY NETO TURNED TO CUBA. NOW THE CUBANS WANT TO LEAVE, BUT THEY'RE NEEDED FOR INTERNAL SECURITY. BOUTEFLIKA AGREED FULLY WITH YOUNG'S STATEMENT THAT AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA

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WOULD PREVENT SOUTH AFRICA FROM PASSING ARMS TO UNITA, WHICH WAS ONE MORE REASON TO GET THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM STRAIGHTENED OUT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. IN THIS CONTEXT BOUTEFLIKA WAS ESPECIALLY LAUDATORY OF US EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA. DISARMING UNITA WOULD ALSO GET THE CUBANS OUT OF ANGOLA.

4. FRANCE AND AFRICA. FRANCE IS REACTIVATING HER BASES IN AFRICA, BOUTEFLIKA SAID, TO REESTABLISH HERSELF AS A COLONIAL POWER. LOOK AT HER BEHAVIOR IN MADAGASCAR AND THE SEYCHELLES. BOUTEFLIKA SAID HE HAD JUST LEARNED THAT FRENCH MERCENARIES WERE INVOLVED IN THE OVERTHROW OF THE COMORON GOVERNMENT. AND NOW SHABA. FRANCE GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT SHE IS ACTING FOR THE WEST. YOUNG REMARKED THAT FRANCE WAS NOT ACTING FOR THE WEST, AND ONE HAD ONLY TO LOOK AT FRENCH/BELGIAN RELATIONS DURING THE SHABA FIGHTING TO SEE THAT. BOUTEFLIKA ASKED THAT WE USE OUR INFLUENCE WITH GISCARD TO "BRING HIM TO REASON."

5. AFRICAN INTERVENTION FORCE. BOUTEFLIKA WONDERED

ALoud WHEN THIS FORCE WOULD INTERVENE, TO SAVE WHOM FROM WHAT. HE SAID THAT IF THERE'S A REAL SOVIET DANGER IN AFRICA, THEN ALGIERS WOULD BE PREPARED TO WORK WITH THE US TO HALT IT. NOW SENGHOR, A "HAS-BEEN," IS COMING TO WASHINGTON TO GIVE THE WRONG MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER. REGIMES LIKE THOSE IN BENIN, THE CONGO AND ETHIOPIA COULD NOT LAST SIMPLY BY FEEDING ON INFLAMMATORY RHETORIC. THE US HAS GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH MOST SOCIALIST STATES, AND THESE EXTREME EXAMPLES SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS SUCH.

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SENEGAL, LIKE MANY OF THE FRANCOPHONE STATES, IS AN ALARMIST, AND WASHINGTON SHOULD BE AWARE OF THIS.

6. GENERAL. BOUTEFLIKA SAID HE LIKED THE REALISTIC, HARD-NOSED ATTITUDE THAT ALGERIA AND THE US BROUGHT TO THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE HOPED THE US WOULD HELP THE WESTERN SAHARANS ACHIEVE THEIR "JUST ASPOIRATIONS." HE DEPLORED THE FACT THAT SHABA WAS TURNING ATTENTION AWAY FROM AFRICA'S BIGGEST PROBLEM: SOUTH AFRICA. HE HAD WORDS OF HIGH PRAISE FOR AMBASSADOR HAYNES AND THE EMBASSY IN ALGIERS. FINA-LY, HE URGED YOUNG TO VISIT ALGERIA AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. YOUNG REPLIED THAT HE MIGHT COME IN LATE

SUMMER OR EARLY AUTUMN.

7. COMMENT. THIS LONG FIRST MEETING BETWEEN
AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA WAS
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PRIMARILY A "GET-ACQUAINTED SESSION. AS ONE OF
THE LEADERS OF THE THIRD WORLD--AND BY EXTENSION A
VOICE WELL HEEDDED IN THE UN FORUM--ALGERIA COULD
CERTAINLY PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING USG IN
ITS APPROACH TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS. BOUTEFLIKA APPEARS
TO RECOGNIZE THIS FACT, AND TO BE GENUINELY APPRE-
CIATIVE OF THE NON-MILITARISTIC STANCE VIS-A-VIS
AFRICATHAT USG HAS ADOPTED. YOUNG

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